

Dear Young Woman



Day One: Pray with me.

Dear God, you are my Father. You are Sovereign and Holy. You made no mistakes when you chose me as your daughter and before I start this 4-day devotional. I want to simply thank you and ask you to give me wisdom and understanding so that I can grow more into the woman you have designed me to be. I love you and ask that your Holy Spirit come to me now. Amen. ♡

Point it Out...

In this devotional, I want to avoid small talk and the obvious. By this time, most of us have experienced the horrid, deadly things this world has to offer. Not God's definition of beauty, but societal beauty standards. Not Godly men, but immature, worldly boys. Not true love in friendships, but slanderous gal-friends who aren't who they seem to be. All this sound familiar? We are faced with these things (and more) daily. Now... before you go give up and adopt a bunch of cats, there is good news. With Jesus, we can make our situation here on planet Earth all the more better. He came to save us from all the bad, ugly stuff. We now have the Holy Spirit on our team. If we can recognize that these worldly things are just a bunch of distractions the father of lies keeps trying to throw our way, we can become the woman God has called us to be much quicker. In these next three days, we'll talk about the things mentioned earlier in this paragraph. Hope you stick along for the ride, dolly! ♡

Verse.

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James 4:8 ♡

To Do.

Make a list of everything that you struggle with. Is it insecurity? Finding validation? Gossip? Be honest with yourself and include everything. While doing this, be careful not to play the victim. Stand firm and make the decision to grow. Every time you pray, have your list at hand and ask God to help you confront these lies. Ask Him to shape your character and mold you more into the image of His Son, our beautiful Savior, Jesus. ♡

Day Two: Let's pray first.

Heavenly Father, today I am grateful that you have allowed me more time on this earth. What I desire to do with this time you have given me is glorify you and deny my own selfish desires in order to comply with your will. Teach me, mold me, help me understand what I will experience today. May I not lean on my own understanding, but yours. I love you and praise you. In Jesus' name, Amen. ♡

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder...

So, societal beauty standards vs. God's definition of beauty. Let's take it a step further. Your own view of what is beautiful vs. what God says is beautiful. To be vulnerable, I have struggled so much with understanding true beauty. With everyone's varying opinions, it can get confusing. The media has opinions, men have opinions, women have opinions and worse- we have opinions ourselves. I have to constantly remind myself that none of these opinions are truth and only the Word of God is. Why is it that we care so much for the things of this world? Our bodies, likes, comments and lip filler aren't coming with us for eternity. God looks at our characters, our hearts, our minds and our spirits. We should not live for the opinions of others, but for the approval of God! Now- I'm not saying to never take care of yourself or look presentable again, but I do want us to be reminded of what 1 Peter 3:3 tells us. People often try to find validation in everything but the cross. Vanity is one serious disease and if we can wash our minds consistently using our handy-dandy Word of God soap, we can avoid getting sick. Close your eyes and imagine what you think God sees you as. For me, I think He mostly sees my spirit and heart. My spirit- which in my mind looks like a plain, white human figure with no features. Both my spirit and heart solely long for Jesus and the beauty of God. I was created to worship, and my life serves to glorify Him. I want to think less of me and more about His beauty. This is how I believe God sees me. This is how I think He also sees you, who is reading this. A blank canvas in which has been redeemed. No hairstyle, no trouble skin, no number on a scale. Just His daughter. Looking as beautiful as ever in the way He perfectly created her to be. God beholds you and beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Tomorrow we'll talk about our value as women and how relationships can either hinder our growth or help excel it. ♡

Verse.

³Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. ⁴Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.

1 Peter 3:3-4 ♡

To Do.

Draw yourself the way you think God sees you. I challenge you to go through your Instagram/camera roll and delete any photos that may distort that. ♡

Day Three: Pray without ceasing.

Try making a prayer of your own before reading. ♡



But we're in love...

Uh-oh. Without wanting to admit, our boyfriends or husbands have become an idol. I will just be straight-forward with this one- I hope you don't mind. If your man isn't leading you closer to the feet of Jesus every day, you're in a tough spot. At the very beginning of our relationship, my significant other dedicated a song to me with a lyric that read, "A man ain't a man till he knows who's love." Who is love? God is love. He and I also fasted for 3 days to make sure that God wanted us for each other. Why did we do that, you may ask? Well, this world has terribly blurred the image of love, sex, marriage and everything that has to do with relationships. Love isn't looking like God intended it to look nowadays. People barely value dating and courtship anymore and most relationships are built on sandy foundations. If they aren't feeling it that day, its over. Or worse- the flesh is so strong that when they do feel, they go all the way before marriage- if you know what I mean. Its difficult for elders in the church to trust young couples because they expect us to fall into temptation or take the relationship as a joke. I say its time we change that stereotype. As young people, we need to depend on God in ALL areas of our lives. This means with relationships as well. Before you go chose someone, ask yourself what you want more. Your will, or Gods will. Find your identity and validation in Christ. ♡

Verse.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 ♡

To Do.

Make a list of all the qualities you believe will be of benefit to you if your partner inhibited them. Now present these qualities to God in prayer, but don't forget to ask God to help mold you and shape you into a woman who is ready for such a relationship. Make a second list of all the qualities you want to inhibit in your relationship and seek God about them. After making these lists, but them at your bedside and pray for your current/future significant other every night. Ask God to always remain at the center of your life and relationship. For without Him, love is not true love. ♡

Day Four: a prayer a day keeps anxiety away.

Holy God, thank you for your sovereignty and goodness. As I close out this devotional, I pray that I am able to continue to be bold and seek you on my own time. Lord, let me not keep your love to myself- instead, give me opportunities to share it. I desire to proclaim your Word wherever I go. Thank you, Father. Mold me into the woman you need me to be. In Jesus' name, Amen. ♡

Who are you...

We all deal with people in our lives who aren't always the most trustworthy. More often than not, they are right under your nose. Have you ever been in a situation where someone makes you feel inferior or intimidated? That person is most likely not really your friend- or anyone's friend for that matter. They may seem like they have a group of people they always hang with; but deep down they are all hurting and seeking validation from one another. When you know your identity in Christ, you are better equipped to deal with these kinds of people. Even when these people try to bring you down, you remain unaffected. Why? Since you are engaging in the Word of God and not in their silly, immature games, they have nothing to criticize you about. Just stay hooked to Jesus and you'll be okay. It's also important to make sure that you are not one of these toxic "friends". Your heart and flesh are deceitful. Every day, it's important to ask God to prune us. I recommend reading the letters of Paul in the Bible, if you haven't already. Doing this can help remind you of what our characters should inhibit as followers of Christ. ♡

Verse.

⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7 ♡

To Do.

Think of a gal friend of yours that you really care about and share this devotional with her! Don't keep Jesus all to yourself- but share Him! Much love ♡

